



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/728,233	12/04/2003	Dennis Lawrence Nicholson	21765-2	7486

7590 05/17/2006

John S. Beulick  
Armstrong Teasdale LLP  
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600  
St. Louis, MO 63102

EXAMINER
----------

LU, JIPING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3749

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/728,233

Applicant(s)

NICHOLSON, DENNIS  
LAWRENCE

Examiner

Jiping Lu

Art Unit

3749

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1, line 11, please change "gold" to --golf--. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jacobson (U. S. Pat. 6,499,227).

Jacobson shows a golf cart 15 comprising at least one external surface 20 and an apparatus 10 for coupling a glove 80 to the external surface of the golf cart 15. The apparatus 10 has a body 35, 40 with an inner surface (facing the external surface 20 of golf cart 15) and an outer surface (opposite to the inner surface). The body 35, 40 is coupled to the golf cart 15 such that the inner surface remains in substantial contact against the least one external surface 20 of the golf cart 15 during the operation of the golf cart 15. The body 35, 40 has at least one first fastening mechanism 70 coupled to the body inner surface to said at least one external surface 20

Art Unit: 3749

of the golf cart 15. The body outer surface has at least one second fastening mechanism 50, 74, 126,136 for removably coupling a glove 80 to the body 35, 40 such that the glove 80 remains coupled to the apparatus 10 during the operation of the golf cart 15.

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ellenburg (U. S. Pat. 5,983,518).

Ellenburg shows a golf cart 34 comprising at least one external surface 32 and an apparatus 10 for coupling a glove 36 to the external surface 32 of the golf cart 34. The apparatus 10 has a body 24 with an inner surface (facing the external surface of golf cart 34) and an outer surface 20 (opposite to inner surface). The body 24 is coupled to the golf cart 34 such that the substantially all of the inner surface remains in contact against the least one external surface 32 of the golf cart 34 during the operation of the golf cart 34. The body 24 has at least one fastening mechanism (inner surface of 24 by friction) for coupling the body inner surface to said at least one external surface 32 of the golf cart 34. The body outer surface has at least one fastening mechanism 12, 14, 16, 18, 38, 40 for removably coupling a glove 36 to the body 24 such that the glove 36 remains coupled to the apparatus 10, 12, 19 during the operation of the golf cart 34. The body comprises at least one fastening mechanism 26-30 for securing the body inner surface against the at least one external surface.

5. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated being by Passafiume (U. S. Pat. 2002/0138953 A1).

Passafiume shows a golf cart 14 comprising at least one external surface 12 and an apparatus 10 for coupling a glove 20 to the external surface 12 of the golf cart 14. The apparatus 10 has a body 56 with an inner surface 54a,56a,58a and an outer surface 54b,56b,58b. The body

Art Unit: 3749

10 is coupled to the golf cart 14 such that the substantially all of the inner surface remains in contact against the least one external surface 12 of the golf cart 14 during the operation of the golf cart 14. The body 10 has at least one fastening mechanism (inner surface of 54a-58a and 60, 62 by friction and clamping) for coupling the body inner surface to said at least one external surface 12 of the golf cart 14. The body outer surface has at least one fastening mechanism 30-80 for removably coupling a glove 20 to the body 10 such that the glove 20 remains coupled to the apparatus 10 during the operation of the golf cart 14. The body comprises at least one fastening mechanism 60,62,64 for securing the body inner surface against the at least one external surface. For claim 13, see first fastening mechanism 62,64 adjacent the body first end and at least one second fastening mechanism 60, 64 adjacent the body second end.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after


Art Unit: 3749

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jiping Lu whose telephone number is 571 272 4878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, EHUD GARTENBERG can be reached on 571 272-4828. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Jiping Lu  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3749

J. L.